

CLASSIFICATION

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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

REPORT NO. [REDACTED]

INFORMATION REPORT

CD NO.

COUNTRY

Poland

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DATE DISTR.

16 August 3

SUBJECT

Salvage and Shipbuilding

NO. OF PAGES

1

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1. In the bay of Gdansk lies the wreck of a dredge which was sunk during the war by aerial bombing. This dredge was built by the Germans for China shortly before the beginning of the war; its outfitting was completed during the first part of the war at the Schichau shipyard. The ship is 122 meters long, 20 meters wide, and about 20 meters high, and has two 3,500 HP engines. The dredge does not lie very deep, but it sustained heavy damages; one side is split open for a length of about 75 meters and one engine is badly damaged, while the second engine is relatively undamaged. The Polish government is now preparing to raise the ship and to have it repaired. Through the Polish Merchant Marine Attache's office in Stockholm, an attempt is being made to find a Swedish shipyard which can undertake the repair of the dredge. Once the ship is put into commission again, it will be sent to China.
2. On 22 July 1951, the Polish Communist national holiday, the first ship of the LEWANT class, which will weigh 4,000 DWT, is to be put into service; this ship was to have gone into service on 1 May 1951; its outfitting, however, was not completed by that date, because the Sulzer engines, imported from Switzerland, arrived too late. The hulls for four more of the LEWANT class ships are ready, but the engines have as yet not arrived.* The first LEWANT class ship was originally to have been named the WARSZAWA, but there has been some mix-up in the naming process.
3. At Gliwice (Gliwice), the Zjednoczenie Przemyslu Maszynowego has begun the production of machines (sic) for Rudoweglowce class ships, and of Scotch boilers; some of the parts for these boilers are being imported from Czechoslovakia. When the construction of LEWANT class ships is finished, construction of more Rudoweglowce class ships will be begun.
4. The ships which Poland bought from Denmark have all been sold equipped with radar and with other auxiliary apparatus.

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Comment: A previous report has stated that arrangements were being made with Switzerland to permit the Poles to produce Sulzer type engines for LEWANT class vessels. See [REDACTED].

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 Auth: [REDACTED]
 Info: 51, 78 017